4TH SENATE DISTRICT

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

STATE SENATOR LENA C. TAYLOR



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Week of May 5 — Mat 11



#### **COMMUNITY ALERT**

The Alzheimer's Association presents:

#### **Treasure**

... a French soirée and art party themed fundraiser

Tuesday, June 4th
Cuvée Champagne Bar
For tickets, contact Kendra:
414.479.880
kalbers@alz.org

#### Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading the legislative update. I hope you find the information provided here useful.

As Always, I'm Here to Serve!



### "Crackdown" on Food Stamps, Ignoring WEDC

In a premature vote last Tuesday the Senate passed AB 82, a bill that would require two-thirds of purchases made with food stamps meet nutrition standards outlined by the federal government. While the intent of the legislation was good-hearted, the hastily scheduled vote failed to take into account the collateral consequences that would result in its passage. The bill creates new rules that could potentially penalize a mother buying tampons for her daughters, or a

elementary student for having a lemonade stand to make a few dollars. Before voting, many of my colleagues failed to consider the fiscal and criminal implications of this bill, and ignored the unfortunate reality of poverty that puts people in difficult situations in order to make ends meet.



## WEDC Audit Report Highlights Law-breaking

The Legislative Audit Bureau found that the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation was blatantly lacking in policies to correctly and effectively administer its grants, loans, and tax credits. WEDC, which is the State's principal economic development organization, utilizes taxpayer dollars in order to promote job creation and foster a healthy economic climate. The audit revealed that WEDC failed to establish proper organizational and procedural policies to run an efficient and ethical business, and found cases where funds had been dispersed to ineligible recipients and projects. While my Republican colleagues have introduced two new bills (which I intended to support) to create stricter guidelines and enhance transparency



for the organization, more must be done. As fiscal stewards for the State, ensuring that tax-payer's dollars are not being thrown away needs to be atop our list of priorities.



Celebrating 20 years of serving the community!

African American
Chamber of Commerce
Annual Meeting

Featured guest U.S. Black Chamber of Commerce President Ron Busby!

Tuesday, May 14th
5:30-7:30
Manpower Headquarters
Please RSVP at 414.462.9450

### Residency Requirement Changes Harm Milwaukee

The Joint Finance Committee voted in favor of changing residency requirements for public employees of Milwaukee. I am personally outraged that the Committee would be so willing to engage in po-

litical payback at the expense of Milwaukee's economic future. Requiring public employees to live in the city is not an abridgement of rights, but rather an efficient and effective community building tool. Police, fire, and other emergency workers are now only limited to a 15 mile distance which will also hurt Milwaukee greatly.



### Milwaukee County Board Bill Advances

The Milwaukee County Board Bill (AB 85) passed the State Assembly this week and has been sent to the Senate. The Senate version of the bill (SB 95) was acted on in committee on Wednesday. I was disappointed that the Senate committee did not take up votes on



Democratic amendments. Nevertheless, the bill is expected to be on the Senate floor on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup>. You will be able to watch the floor debate at <a href="https://www.wiseye.org">www.wiseye.org</a>. Be sure to tune in.

# Senator Taylor's Office

(608) 266-5810
sen.taylor@legis.wi.gov
www.senatortaylor.com
Facebook.com/SenLenaTaylor
Twitter.com/sentaylor
Rm 19 South, State Capitol

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

## Wise Words of the Week!

Contact Us! We Enjoy Hearing From You!

"If you can, help others; if you cannot do that, at least do not harm them"

-His Holiness, the Dalai Lama



"Leadership has a harder job to do than just choose sides. It must bring sides together"



-Rev. Jesse Jackson